



First Tri-County Bank

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2005 OCT 3 AM 10 16

Thomas D. Bass
President

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September 20, 2005

FDIC- San Francisco Regional Office
Director John F. Carter
25 Jesse Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Carter:

We operate a small community bank and have seen the impact that Wal-mart has had on independently owned business's in our area. I would hate to imagine what would happen to communities should Wal-Mart be allowed to open an industrial loan company.

Congress stated its opposition to the mixing of banking and commerce when it enacted the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. Mixing banking and commerce represents bad public policy that could jeopardize the impartial allocation of credit and create conflicts of interest.

While the Wal-Mart ILC application in Utah does not seek broad "banking" powers, once a charter is granted, expanded powers, including nationwide branching, could be sought. The vast resources brought to the table by Wal-Mart would have an adverse impact on community banks, in much the same manner that Wal-Mart's presence has had on other retail establishments in the communities in which it is located.

A nationwide banking operation by Wal-Mart would pose a significant systemic risk. The potential size of Wal-Mart banking operation would represent an ill-advised and unprecedented concentration of economic power.

It concerns me that we are headed towards a "one Stop" society. Please keep in mind the nations communities on this application. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Bass
President